

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-10 /073 W
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R 261243Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5819

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 1646

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YE, ET

SUBJECT: PLIGHT OF YEMENI COMMUNITY IN ETHIOPIA

1. ON JUNE 25, DIRECTOR FOREIGN MINISTRY'S POLITICAL DEPT., AHMAD AL-HADDAD, ASKED ME TO CALL IN ORDER DISCUSS PLIGHT OF YEMENI COMMUNITY IN ETHIOPIA. HADDAD SAID THAT TWO WEEKS AGO YEMENIS IN AND AROUND ADDIS ABABA WERE ATTACKED BY CROWDS AND MANY WERE WOUNDED AND A SMALL UNDETERMINED NUMBER KILLED. MUCH PROPERTY DAMAGE WAS ALSO SUSTAINED. AL-HADDAD CONTINUED THAT YEMENI PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI HAS SENT A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO THE HEAD OF ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT PROTESTING THESE ACTIONS AND POINTING OUT YARG'S DESIRE TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS WITH CENTRAL ETHIOPIAN REGIME IN SPITE OF PRESSURES WITHIN THE ARAB WORLD TO SUPPORT ERITREAN INSURGENTS. AL-HADDAD RECALLED THAT FONMIN ABDULLAH AL-ASNAG HAD BEEN OVN ETHIOPIA A FEW MONTHS AGO TO DISCUSS SAME SUBJECT. AT THAT TIME, THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT SAID THAT ACTIONS AGAINST YEMENIS HAD TAKEN PLACE IN REMOTE REGIONS AFFECTED BY THE ERITREAN INSURGENCY. ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS ASSURED ASNAG THAT YEMENIS ARE WELCOME IN ETHIOPIA AND WILL BE PROTECTED. (SANA 929). AL-HADDAD OBSERVED THAT THESE RECENT INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN THE CAPITAL CITY WHERE THE INSURGENCY IS NOT ACTIVE AND FOR THIS
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REASON THE YARG IS CONCERNED.

2. AL-HADDAD CONTINUED THAT IN VIEW OF THIS RECENT DEVELOPMENT YARG DOES NOT KNOW WHAT NEW APPROACH PB TAKE WITH ETHIOPIAN REGIME WITH WHICH IT TRULY WISHES TO MAINTAIN A COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP. YARG HAS, THEREFORE, DECIDED TO "APPEAL" TO USG IN ORDER ASCERTAIN IF IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR AMERICAN EMBASSY IN ADDIS ABABA TO EXPLAIN TO ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT THAT CONTINUATION OF SUCH ACTS AGAINST YEMENI CITIZENS IN ETHIOPIA WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR YEMEN TO CONTINUE ITS FRIENDLY POLICY TOWARDS ETHIOPIA.

3. WHILE TELLING HADDAD THAT I WOULD OF COURSE CONVEY HIS REQUEST TO ESHINGTON, I ALSO POINTED OUT THA FOUR RELATIONS WITH THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT AR NOT AS CLOSE AS THEY WERE IN THE PAST. I ASSURED HIM, HOWEVER, THAT SERIOUS CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO HIS GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST.
SCOTES

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